

Notwithstanding these gratifying results, however, there was a large excess of expenditure over income, and as the revenue derivable from existing sources is clearly inadequate to meet the unavoidable annual charges on the Public Treasury, measures will be submitted for your consideration calculated to equalize the annual income with the annual expenditure of the country.

*Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen :*

I commit the affairs of the Province to your patriotic and disinterested consideration, earnestly hoping that under the favor of Divine Providence, your deliberations during this Session may be productive of results conducive to the prosperity of *Canada* and the happiness of her people.

His Excellency the Governor General was pleased to retire, and the Legislative Assembly withdrew.

PRAYERS.

The Honorable the Speaker acquainted the House that a Return had been received from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, relative to the Return of a Member to represent the Electoral Division of *Rougemont*.

The same was then read by the Clerk, as follows :—

PROVINCE OF CANADA, }  
To wit :

This is to certify that in virtue of a Writ of Election, dated the twenty-first day of December last past, issued by His Excellency the Governor General, and addressed to the Returning Officer for the Electoral Division of *Rougemont* (*Louis E. P. Laberge*, Esquire, appointed Returning Officer for the Electoral Division of *Rougemont*), for the election of a Member to represent the said Division of *Rougemont* in the Legislative Council, in the room and place of the Honorable *Louis Antoine Dessauvilles*, who since his election as the Representative of the said Electoral Division of *Rougemont*, had accepted an office of profit under the Crown, to wit: the office of Joint Clerk of the Crown and Joint Clerk of the Peace and of the Sessions of the Peace, for the District of *Montreal*; *William Henry Chaffers*, Esquire, has been returned as duly elected accordingly, as appears by the Return to the said Writ of Election, dated the eighth day of January, which is now lodged of record in my office.

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CROWN IN CHANCERY,  
*Quebec*, 15th January, 1864.

L. R. FORTIER,  
Clerk of the Crown in Chancery.

To *John Fenning Taylor*, Esquire,  
Clerk, Legislative Council,  
*Quebec*.

Whereupon the Honorable *William Henry Chaffers* was introduced between the Honorable Messieurs *Letellier de St. Just* and *McMaster*.

Then the Honorable Mr. *Chaffers* came to the Table, and took and subscribed the Oath prescribed by Law, which was administered by the Clerk of this House, and took his seat accordingly.

The Honorable Mr. *Fergusson Blair* presented to the House a Bill intituled: "An Act relating to Common Schools."

The said Bill was read for the first time.

The Honorable the Speaker reported His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, and the same was then read by the Clerk.